

Claims

- [c1] A method of communicating business information using a network-based system including at least one server coupled to a database and at least one device, said method comprising:
- creating a plurality of dashboards;
 - storing the dashboards in the database;
 - populating the dashboards using information from the database; and
 - providing the dashboards to a user through the device.
- [c2] A method according to Claim 1 wherein providing the dashboards comprises providing the same dashboard to a plurality of users, simultaneously.
- [c3] A method according to Claim 1 wherein populating the dashboards comprises populating the dashboard with updated information from the database.
- [c4] A method according to Claim 1 wherein creating a plurality of dashboards further comprises selecting filtering parameters.
- [c5] A method according to Claim 1 wherein creating a plurality of dashboards further comprises selecting at least one dial for the dashboard.
- [c6] A method according to Claim 5 wherein selecting at least one dial comprises selecting a dial that displays one of a 1st Shipment Fill Rate (Stock) – Standard report, a 1st Shipment Fill Rate (Stock) – Exclude Single Line Items report, a 1st Shipment Fill Rate (Stock) – A Items Only report, a 1st Shipment Fill Rate (Stock) – A Items Only – Exclude Single Line Items report, a 1st Shipment Fill Rate (Stock Unit Ship) – Standard report, a 1st Shipment Fill Rate (Stock Unit Ship) – Exclude Single Line Items report, a 1st Shipment Fill Rate (Stock Unit Ship) – A Items Only report, a 1st Shipment Fill Rate (Stock Unit Ship) – A Items Only – Exclude Items report, a Number of Days to 1st Shipment – Stock Items report, a Number of Shipments Per Order – Stock Items report, a % Lines Complete in 10 Days – Stock Items report, an Average Days To Complete Order – Stock Items report, a RGA As % Of Sales report, a Transactional Quality As % Of Sales report, an Order Placement Profile & Order Entry Productivity report, a Requests Met – Stock & Drop Ship Items report, a Requests Met – Stock Only Items report, a Requests Met – Drop Ship Items Only report, a Promises Kept – Stock & Drop Ship Items report, a Promises Kept – Stock

Items Only report, a Promises Kept – Drop Ship Items Only report, a Product Quality – Percentage report, a Product Quality – DPMO report, a Product Quality – Total RMAs report, a Product Quality – Total RMA Item Quantity report, a Product Quality – RMAs Issued vs. Line Items Shipped report, a Product Quality – RMAs Issued vs. Orders report, a Product Quality – RMAs vs. Total Line Item Quantity report, and a Sales YTM Trend report.

[c7] A method according to Claim 5 wherein selecting at least one dial comprises selecting a dial owner.

[c8] A method according to Claim 5 wherein selecting at least one dial comprises selecting a upper spec limit and a lower spec limit for the dial.

[c9] A method according to Claim 1 wherein creating a plurality of dashboards comprises selecting a time span for the information used to generate the dashboard.

[c10] A method according to Claim 1 wherein creating a plurality of dashboards comprises granting viewing privileges for at least one user.

[c11] A system for communicating business information, said system comprising:
at least one device;
at least one server configured to receive business information, store the business information and provide the business information;
a network connecting said at least one server to said at least one device; said server configured to generate at least one dashboard using the business information, the dashboard available through said network for display on said device.

[c12] The system of Claim 11 wherein the at least one dashboard is stored on said at least one server.

[c13] The system of Claim 11 wherein the dashboard comprises at least one dial.

[c14] The system of Claim 13 wherein each dial comprises a display of one of at least one of a 1st Shipment Fill Rate (Stock) – Standard report, a 1st Shipment Fill Rate (Stock) – Exclude Single Line Items report, a 1st Shipment Fill Rate (Stock) – A Items Only report, a 1st Shipment Fill Rate (Stock) – A Items Only – Exclude Single Line Items report, a 1st Shipment Fill Rate (Stock Unit Ship) – Standard report, a 1st Shipment Fill Rate (Stock Unit Ship) – Exclude Single Line Items report, a 1st Shipment Fill Rate (Stock Unit Ship) – A

Items Only report, a 1st Shipment Fill Rate (Stock Unit Ship) – A Items Only – Exclude Items report, a Number of Days to 1st Shipment – Stock Items report, a Number of Shipments Per Order – Stock Items report, a % Lines Complete in 10 Days – Stock Items report, an Average Days To Complete Order – Stock Items report, a RGA As % Of Sales report, a Transactional Quality As % Of Sales report, an Order Placement Profile & Order Entry Productivity report, a Requests Met – Stock & Drop Ship Items report, a Requests Met – Stock Only Items report, a Requests Met – Drop Ship Items Only report, a Promises Kept – Stock & Drop Ship Items report, a Promises Kept – Stock Items Only report, a Promises Kept – Drop Ship Items Only report, a Product Quality – Percentage report, a Product Quality – DPMO report, a Product Quality – Total RMAs report, a Product Quality – Total RMA Item Quantity report, a Product Quality – RMAs Issued vs. Line Items Shipped report, a Product Quality – RMAs Issued vs. Orders report, a Product Quality – RMAs vs. Total Line Item Quantity report, and a Sales YTM Trend report.

[c15]

The system of Claim 13 wherein the dial comprises a graphic display of business information.

[c16]

The system of Claim 13 wherein the dial comprises a drilldown data display of business information.

[c17]

The system of Claim 11 wherein said at least one server regenerates said dashboards on at least one of a predetermined schedule and on command.

[c18]

The system of Claim 11 wherein the at least one dashboard is selectively available through said network, said network is at least one of the Internet, an intranet, a wide area network and a local area network.

[c19]

The system of Claim 11 wherein the at least one dashboard includes business information within a specific time span.

[c20]

The system of Claim 11 wherein said at least one dashboard provides business information based on selectable parameters.

[c21]

A system for communicating business information, said system comprising:
at least one device;
at least one server configured to receive business information, store the business

information and provide the business information;
a network connecting said at least one server to said at least one device; and
at least one dashboard comprising at least one dial comprising a graphic display of the
business information and a drilldown data display, said dashboard generated by said
server using the business information, said dashboard stored on said server after
generation, said dashboard selectively available through said network for display on said
device.

[c22]

A computer program embodied on a computer readable medium for managing business
information, said program comprising a code segment that receives business information
and then:

maintains a database by adding, deleting and updating business information;
generates at least one dashboard based on the received business information; and
provides consistent dashboards to users.

[c23]

The computer program as recited in Claim 22 further comprising a code segment that
provides at least one of an option to filter business information based on at least one of a
Customer Names pull-down list, a Customer Name-numbers pull-down list, a Region
Name-Number pull-down list, a Business Team Code - Product Segment - Product
Segment Code pull-down list, a Plant Name-Code pull-down list, and a Product Family-
Code pull-down list.

[c24]

The computer program as recited in Claim 22 further includes a code segment that
generates a display of at least one of a 1st Shipment Fill Rate (Stock) - Standard report, a
1st Shipment Fill Rate (Stock) - Exclude Single Line Items report, a 1st Shipment Fill Rate
(Stock) - A Items Only report, a 1st Shipment Fill Rate (Stock) - A Items Only - Exclude
Single Line Items report, a 1st Shipment Fill Rate (Stock Unit Ship) - Standard report, a 1st
Shipment Fill Rate (Stock Unit Ship) - Exclude Single Line Items report, a 1st Shipment Fill
Rate (Stock Unit Ship) - A Items Only report, a 1st Shipment Fill Rate (Stock Unit Ship) - A
Items Only - Exclude Items report, a Number of Days to 1st Shipment - Stock Items
report, a Number of Shipments Per Order - Stock Items report, a % Lines Complete in 10
Days - Stock Items report, an Average Days To Complete Order - Stock Items report, a
RGA As % Of Sales report, a Transactional Quality As % Of Sales report, an Order
Placement Profile & Order Entry Productivity report, a Requests Met - Stock & Drop Ship

Items report, a Requests Met – Stock Only Items report, a Requests Met – Drop Ship Items Only report, a Promises Kept – Stock & Drop Ship Items report, a Promises Kept – Stock Items Only report, a Promises Kept – Drop Ship Items Only report, a Product Quality – Percentage report, a Product Quality – DPMO report, a Product Quality – Total RMAs report, a Product Quality – Total RMA Item Quantity report, a Product Quality – RMAs Issued vs. Line Items Shipped report, a Product Quality – RMAs Issued vs. Orders report, a Product Quality – RMAs vs. Total Line Item Quantity report, and a Sales YTM Trend report.

[c25]

The computer program as recited in Claim 22 further comprising a code segment that displays each dashboard in a standardized format.

[c26]

The computer program as recited in Claim 22 further comprising:

a code segment that accesses the database;

a code segment that searches the database regarding the specific inquiry;

a code segment that retrieves information from the database; and

a code segment that causes the retrieved information to be displayed on the client system.

[c27]

The computer program as recited in Claim 22 and further comprising a code segment that monitors the security of the system by restricting access to authorized individuals.